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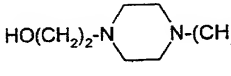
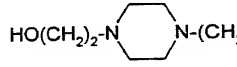
(54) Title: SOMATOSTATIN AGONISTS

X-A[1]-cyclo(D-Cys-A[3]-A[4]-Lys-A[6]-A[7])-A[8]-Y. (I)



(a)



(b)

(57) Abstract: The present invention is directed to cyclic peptides of formula (I): X-A[1]-cyclo(D-Cys-A[3]-A[4]-Lys-A[6]-A[7])-A[8]-Y, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein X is H, formula (a) or formula (b); A^1 and A^3 are each independently the D- or L-isomer of an amino acid selected from the group consisting of Phe, Tyr, Tyr(I), Trp, 3-Pal, 4-Pal, Cpa and Nal; A^4 is L-Trp, D-Trp, L-β-methyl-Trp or D-β-methyl-Trp; A^6 is -NH-$(CHR^1)_n$-CO-, where n is 2, 3, or 4; A^7 is L- or D-Cys; A^8 is the D- or L-isomer of an amino acid selected from the group consisting of Phe, Tyr, Tyr(I), Trp, Nal, Cpa, Val Leu, Ile, Ser and Thr; Y is NR^2R^3 where R^2 and R^3 are each independently H or $(C_1$-$C_5)$alkyl; R^1 is selected from the group consisting H, $(C_1$-$C_4)$alkyl and -CH_2-aryl; wherein said aryl is an optionally substituted moiety selected from the group consisting of phenyl, 1-naphthyl, and 2-naphthyl, wherein said optionally substituted moiety is optionally substituted with one or more substituents each independently selected from the group consisting of (C_{1-6})alkyl, (C_{2-6})alkenyl, (C_{2-6})alkynyl, aryl, aryl(C_{1-6})alkyl, (C_{1-6})alkoxy, -$N(R^4R^5)$, -COOH, -$CON(R^4R^5)$, halo, -OH, -CN, and -NO_2; R^4 and R^5 each is, independently for each occurrence, H or (C_{1-3})alkyl; where the Cys of A^2 is bonded to the Cys of A^7 by a di-sulfide bond formed from the thiol groups of each Cys; pharmaceutical compositions comprising said peptides and the use thereof as a somatostatin receptor subtypes agonist. The peptides of the present invention bind selectively to the somatostatin subtype receptor type-5 and elicit an agonist effect from the somatostatin subtype receptors that the peptides bind to.

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